

Sleep Health and Safety

Kathryn Hansen
Director
Sleep Wellness Center
Executive Director
Kentucky Sleep Society
Lexington, KY

A Time of Transition



Adolescent Sleep

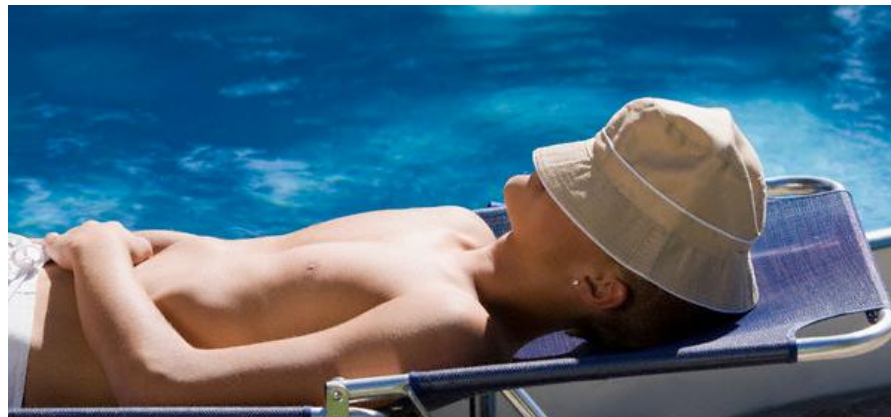


- Sleep Need
 - Recommended range: 8.5-9.5 hours
 - Avg. need 9.25 hours



Adolescent Sleep

- Relevant Developmental Issues
 - Circadian factors – approximate 2 hour phase delay
 - Melatonin secretion delayed (Carskadon et al., 1998)
 - Weekend / weekday bedtime discrepancy
 - Increase in Excessive Daytime Sleepiness independent of insufficient sleep (Carskadon et al., 1993)



Adolescent “Sleep in America”

Daytime Sleepiness

- 51% reported feeling too tired during the day
 - More pronounced in high-schoolers (59%) than in middle-schoolers (41%)
- 19% fall asleep in school one day per week
- 11% reported arriving late or missing school because they had overslept at least one day in the past two weeks



Consequences of Sleep Deprivation in Adolescents

- Driving accidents
- Emotional and behavioral difficulties (both internalizing and externalizing)
- Health complaints
- Increased tobacco and alcohol usage
- Impaired learning
- Impaired decision-making
- Lower overall performance (from academics to sports)



Role of Caffeine



d 70-

98% of adolescents consume at least 1 beverage daily; 31% report 2+ per day (NSF 2006); most frequent time for soda-drinkers is 5-9pm

- Elimination half-life six hours
- Night waking
- decreases sleep time
- negatively impacts sleep quality

Nonprescribed Stimulant Use

- Review of 21 studies, n=113,104 (Wilens et al. 2008)
- Prevalence
 - high school 5-9%
 - College 5-35%
 - Predicators: Caucasian, Fraternity/Sororities, lower GPAs
- 16-29% of students with prescriptions were asked to give, sell, or trade their medications
- Most common reasons included reduce fatigue, improve concentration

Role of Electronics

- Typical Day: 12 hour screen media; 25% of this time due to media multitasking (Rideout et al. 2010)
 - Increase of over 2 hours per day in past five years
- Cell phone use: Of those with cell phones, 7-12th graders text 1.5 hours/day; talk 36 min/day (Rideout et al. 2010)
- Cell phone use after 9pm: 34-50% of high-schoolers text (Calamaro et al., 2009)





Drowsy Driving



- Drowsiness or fatigue principle cause in at least 100,000 police-reported traffic crashes each year, killing <1,500 Americans and injuring 71,000 (NHTSA, 1994)
- Young drivers age 25 or under involved in more than half of fall-asleep crashes.
- 51% of adolescents report they have driven drowsy at least once in the past year; 5% have fallen asleep while driving at least once (NSF, 2006)
- Peak age for fall-asleep driving is 20 (Pack et al. 95)
- Interactions between crashes and insufficient sleep include drunk-driving and driver lapses / inattention

What is Fatigue?



Sleep Debt

- **Describes the cumulative affect of sleep deprivation**
- **It needs to be repaid like financial debt**
- **Not easy to make up**



Symptoms of Fatigue

- **Eyes closing or going out of focus**
- **Eyes start to burn**
- **Wandering or disconnected thoughts**
- **Adjusted radio more than once in last hour**
- **Forget to turn off signal from lane change**
- **Need stimulants to stay alert**
- **Unaware of passing vehicles**
- **Not able to remember last warning sign**
- **Irritable, exhausted, and giddiness**



Impact of Sustained Wakefulness

17 Hours = .05% Blood Alcohol

**KENTUCKY DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE:
.08% Blood Alcohol**

24 Hours = .10% Blood Alcohol

What a Difference an Hour Makes

Time Change and Effects on Vehicle Crashes

Spring: 1 hour less of sleep, crashes
increased more than 7%

Fall: 1 hour more of sleep, crashes
decreased more than 7%

NOTE: There are also more reported crashes in
the fall due to more hours of darkness.

Sleep Restrictions Profoundly Reduces Performance

(University of Pennsylvania with 35 healthy adults)

Results:

UNCONTROLLED SLEEP ATTACKS	THINKING ABILITY ALERTNESS & TASK PERFORMANCE
4 hours sleep : 50%	Marked Decrease
6 hours sleep: 25%	Moderate Decrease
8 hours sleep: 0%	Improved.

Conclusion: Poor Sleep can impair safety within one week.

Source: National Sleep Foundation Publication, summer 1999

Impact of Sleep Debt on Appetite

2 days of 4 hrs/day

- Hormone that decreases appetite (leptin) ↓ 18%
- Hormone that increases appetite (ghrelin) ↑ 28%
- Hunger ↑ 24%
- Appetite ↑ 23%

Spiegel et al, Ann Intern Med 141:846, 2004

Drowsy Driving Technologies

- Rumble strips
 - Reduce off-road crashes by 30-70%
- Warning System in vehicles
 - Uses video camera to track vehicle position in lane & generates warning for unsignaled lane changes or vehicles drifting out of their lane
- Driver fatigue monitoring in vehicles
 - Cameras using infrared retinal reflectance detect slow eyelid closures

Effects of Fatigue

- **Slowed reaction time**
- **Reduced accuracy**
- **Diminished ability to see subtle changes**
- **Lapse of attention**
- **Compromised problem solving and decision making**
- **Poor communication skills**
- **Short-term memory lapses**
- **Reduced motivation**
- **Irritability or hostility**
- **Empathetic**
- **Intrusion of sleep into wakefulness**
- **Decreased energy**
- **Decreased learning of new tasks**
- **Reduced hand-eye coordination**

Consequences of Driving Sleep Deprived

- **Have slowed reaction times**
- **Exhibit erratic driving habits**
 - Tailgating
 - Drifted onto the shoulder or off the road
 - Braking for no apparent reason
- **Become more accident prone**
- **Operate on automatic pilot**
- **Cannot remember the last few miles driven**
 - Do not remember exits or landmarks you have passed

Falling Asleep at the Wheel



Drowsy Driving Technologies

- Rumble strips
 - Reduce off-road crashes by 30-70%
- Warning System in vehicles
 - Uses video camera to track vehicle position in lane & generates warning for unsignaled lane changes or vehicles drifting out of their lane
- Driver fatigue monitoring in vehicles
 - Cameras using infrared retinal reflectance detect slow eyelid closures

State Drowsy Driving Information in Drivers Manual

	Number of States
● Yes	43
● No	8

Recognizing Fall-Asleep Crashes

- Typically single vehicle roadway departure
- Not speeding
- No evidence of braking
- Low alcohol
 - Low level alcohol and sleep loss interact

Training for Police Regarding Drowsy Driving

	Number of States
● Yes	19
● No	32

Case Study

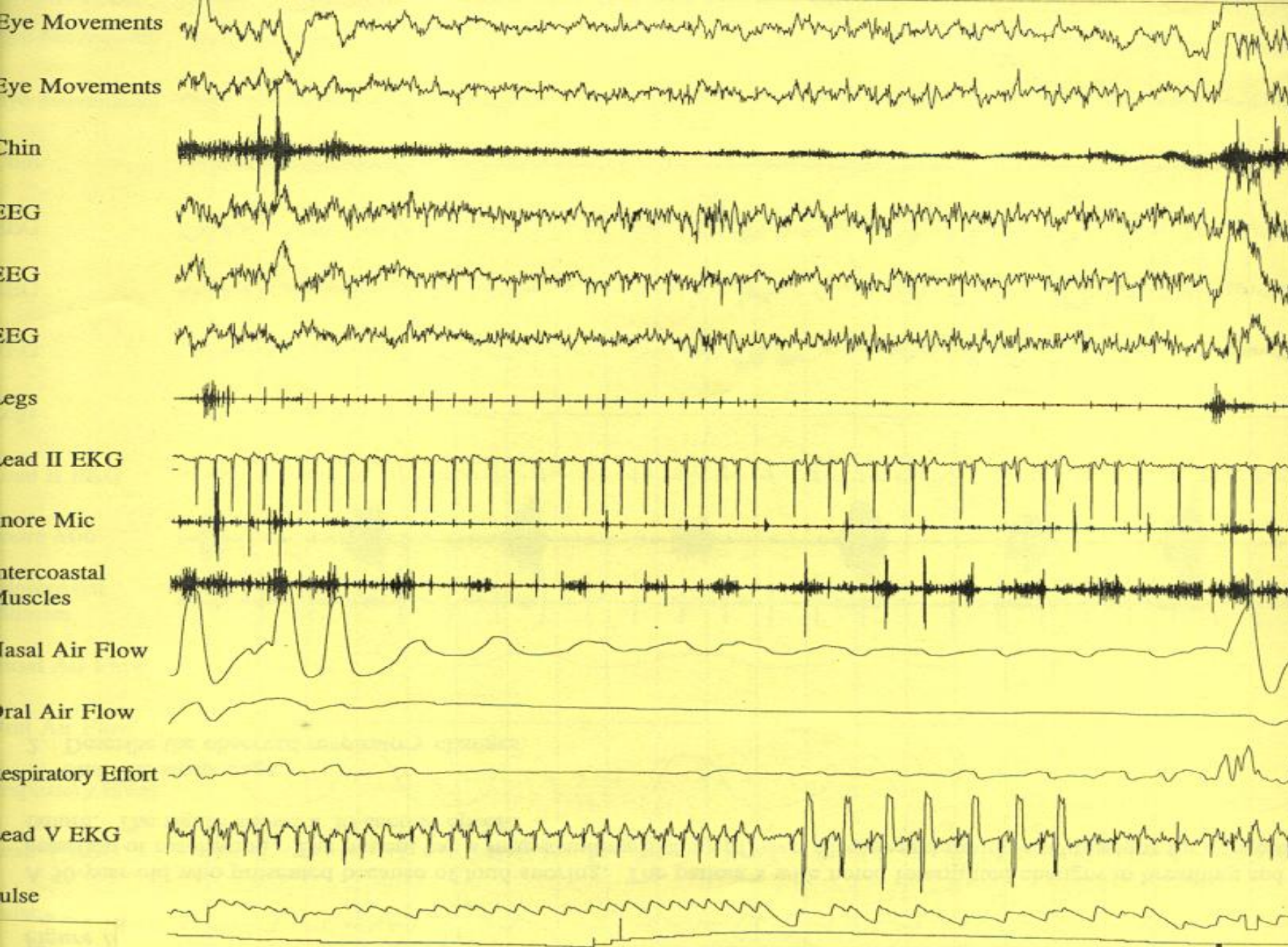
- “Now when I see a truck in a ditch, I think I know how and why it happened!”
 - Walter Johnson, *Dart Transit*
- *A driver who just **logged 8 hrs of sleep** is pulling over for naps every 2 hours. He is worried about **nodding off** while driving. He is **tired all the time** and worn out day after day. His sleep is often **disrupted** by variations in his driving schedule.*

When questioned about his sleep.....



- He is a loud, **habitual** snorer
- He feels tired and groggy on awakening
- **He falls asleep easily during waking hours**
- He is overweight and has a large neck
 - BMI >30
- Has been observed to choke, gasp, and hold his breath during sleep
- **Has elevated sugar levels and blood pressure**





Why address sleep apnea? It is a safety risk

- **25% report falling asleep at wheel last year**
- **> 6 times increased risk for crash**
- **> 7 times increased risk for multiple crashes**

HIGH RISK CITIZENS (DRIVERS)

326% More Health Care Dollars Spent Each Year

Medical Claims with Citizens at Risk = \$3,803

- Smokers
- High Stress
- High Cholesterol
- No Exercise
- High Blood Pressure
- Poor Diet

Medical Claims for Citizens Not at Risk: \$1,166

Additional Annual Claims Paid When at Risk:

\$2,637

(Yearly Savings per Driver)

Schneider National Trucking

- **547 drivers tested for a sleep disorder between April – December 2006**
- **445 – 80% - were positive for a sleep disorder**
- **Healthcare costs reduced by 50%**
- **73 % reduction in preventable driving accidents among a group of 225 SDB-diagnosed drivers**
- **Driver retention increased 2.29 times**
 - **Compared to 2005**
 - **Provided CPAP treatment free**

Definition of High-Risk Driver

- A recent fall-asleep crash
- Repeated near-miss fall asleep episodes
- Repeated falling asleep in other active situation (during conversation; at meal time)
- Very high score on Epworth Sleepiness Scale (very high not defined - >15 pr >16)
- High risk driver – stop driving until treated

Recommendations to defend against fatigue

- **Education**
- **Scheduling drive time: bright light to remain alert**
- **Planned naps**
- **Routine rest and meal breaks**
- **Light therapy**
- **Use Evidence to drive safety practices**
 - **What actions drive change to improve the safety**

Before “hitting the road”

- 1. Get adequate sleep—most adults need 7-9 hours to maintain proper alertness during the day**
- 2. Schedule proper breaks—about every 100 miles or 2 hours during long trips**
- 3. Arrange for a travel companion—someone to talk with and share the driving**
- 4. Avoid alcohol and sedating medications—check your labels or ask your doctor**

Countermeasures to Prevent a Fall-Asleep Crash While Driving

- **Watch for the warning signs of fatigue**
- **Stop driving—pull off at the next exit, rest area or find a place to sleep for the night**
- **Take a nap—find a safe place to take a 15 to 20-minute nap**
- **Consume caffeine—the equivalent of 2 cups of coffee can increase alertness for several hours**
- **Try consuming caffeine before taking a short nap to get the benefits of both**

Tips for Better Sleep

- **Exercise regularly and do it at least 3 hours before bedtime**
- **Eat regular, nutritious meals, but not a heavy meal near bedtime**
- **Have a routine for going to bed and rising each day**
- **Create a positive sleep environment**
- **Assess effect of tobacco, caffeine and alcohol**

Caffeine -- does it help?

- **Caffeine promotes short-term alertness.**
- **Takes about 30 minutes to begin working**
- **Better:**
 - pull over for a caffeinated beverage,
 - take a short nap, and
 - then get back on the road.
- **Caffeine won't have much of an effect on people who consume it regularly.**

Vehicle Warning Detection Devices

- Mercedes
 - Device to detect wandering into another lane and traveling too close to another vehicle
- Volvo
 - Device to detect wandering into another lane
- Trucks
 - Device to detect eye closure

Conclusion

- **Importance of recognizing sleep deprivation as a risk factor for safety**
- **Identifying the impact of sleep loss**
- **Recognition of untreated sleep apnea as a risk factor for safe driving**

Questions

- For information contact
- Kathryn Hansen at:
- 859.312.8880

